

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:DBARCHARD:NH/IO/ML:PWKRIEBEL

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY (SECTO 19019)

TO:SWLEWIS

NEA:SSOBER

S/S:RGAMBLE

EA:WGLEYSTEEN (KOREA ONLY)

S:STAFF

----- 067839

O R 300051Z JUL 76 ZFF6

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KABUL NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 188805

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AF, US

SUBJECT: COLOMBO NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT: LETTER FROM THE
SECRETARY

1. PLEASE DELIVER THE TEXT OF THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM
THE SECRETARY TO PRESIDENT DAOUD. IT IS NOT REPEAT NOT
PLANNED TO SEND SIGNED ORIGINALS.

2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I VERY MUCH ENJOYED
HAVING YOUR SPECIAL ENVOY, MOHAMMAD NAIM, AS MY GUEST DUR-
ING HIS RECENT VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES. I KNOW THAT
PRESIDENT FORD IN PARTICULAR FOUND HIS DISCUSSION WITH MR.
NAIM TO BE HIGHLY USEFUL. WE CONSIDER THE VISIT TO BE AN
IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN FURTHER IMPROVING RELATIONS BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES AND AFGHANISTAN.

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DURING HIS VISIT, MR. NAIM MET WITH SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIALS WHO DISCUSSED SEVERAL ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO THE UNITED STATES WHICH ARE LIKELY TO COME UP IN INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS PRIOR TO THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND AT THE ASSEMBLY ITSELF. OF PARTICULAR CONCERN WERE THE QUESTIONS OF PUERTO RICO AND KOREA. I WANT TO REINFORCE THE VIEWS EXPRESSED TO MR. NAIM DURING HIS VISIT BY PERSONALLY STATING THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS ON THESE TWO SUBJECTS.

ON PUERTO RICO, OUR POLICY IS BASED ON COMPLETE ACCEPTANCE OF PUERTO RICO'S RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION. THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO APPROVED THEIR CONSTITUTION AND COMMONWEALTH STATUS IN 1952 AND REAFFIRMED THAT CHOICE IN A 1967 REFERENDUM. THE UNITED NATIONS EXPLICITLY RECOGNIZED THE SELF-GOVERNING STATUS OF PUERTO RICO AND REMOVED PUERTO RICO FROM THE LIST OF NON SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES IN 1953. WE ASSURED THE UNITED NATIONS AT THAT TIME THAT, IF THE PUERTO RICAN LEGISLATURE SHOULD ADOPT A RESOLUTION IN FAVOR OF INDEPENDENCE AT ANY TIME IN THE FUTURE, THE PRESIDENT WOULD RECOMMEND TO THE CONGRESS THAT INDEPENDENCE BE GRANTED.

IN VIEW OF THIS, DISCUSSION OF PUERTO RICO'S STATUS BY ANY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OR ASSEMBLY WOULD BE AN UNWARRANTED INTRUSION INTO THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED STATES AND PUERTO RICO. THE UNITED STATES CAME INTO POSSESSION OF VARIOUS NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS CENTURY AND EACH HAS BEEN ABLE TO CHOOSE THE COURSE IT WISHED TO FOLLOW. THE PHILIPPINES CHOSE INDEPENDENCE (1947); HAWAII, STATEHOOD; AND PUERTO RICO, A SPECIAL COMMONWEALTH RELATIONSHIP WITH THE U.S. WHICH CONTINUES TO EVOLVE. SO LONG AS THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO WISH TO CONTINUE THIS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES, ANY OUTSIDE DISCUSSION OF THIS RELATIONSHIP CAN ONLY BE OFFENSIVE TO US AND THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO. PRESIDENT FORD MADE THIS POINT WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS WHEN HE VISITED PUERTO RICO IN JUNE WHEN HE SAID THAT THOSE WHO MIGHT BE INCLINED TO INTERVENE IN OUR FREELY DETERMINED RELATIONS SHOULD KNOW THAT SUCH AN ACT WOULD BE CONSIDERED INTERVENTION IN THE DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF PUERTO RICO AND THE UNITED STATES.

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I AM SURE THAT YOU WILL UNDERSTAND OUR STRONG FEELINGS IN THIS MATTER.

IN VIEW OF THE INFLUENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN IN THE UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF 24 AND THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT, YOU ARE IN A UNIQUE POSITION TO PREVENT EXPLOITATION OF THE PUERTO RICO STATUS QUESTION BY THOSE WHO MAY WISH TO RAISE IT IN THESE BODIES FOR THEIR OWN PURPOSES. I

HOPE I WILL HAVE YOUR COOPERATION IN THIS REGARD.

WITH REGARD TO KOREA, WE DO NOT, AND WE BELIEVE MOST UN MEMBERS DO NOT WISH TO SEE THE KOREAN ISSUE ISSUE BECOME AGAIN A WASTEFUL AND CONTENTIOUS CONTROVERSY USELESSLY DIVERTING THE ENERGIES OF THE UNGA. HOWEVER, IF IMPORTANT GROUPS WITHIN THE UN MEMBERSHIP ACCEDE TO PRESSURES TO ENDORSE THE NORTH KOREAN POSITION--SUCH AS ABOLISHING THE ARMISTICE MACHINERY OR ALTERING THE MILITARY BALANCE WHICH HAS PRESERVED PEACE FOR 23 YEARS--IT IS ALMOST INEVITABLE THAT WE WILL BE FACED WITH A CHALLENGE IN THE UNGA TO WHICH WE WILL BE OBLIGED TO RESPOND ENERGETICALLY. FOR THIS REASON, I BELIEVE YOU WOULD DO A SERVICE TO PEACE AND STABILITY IN THAT AREA BY ADVOCATING THAT STATEMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL FORA ON THIS ISSUE EMPHASIZE ONLY THE NEED FOR A CONCILIATORY POSTURE BY THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED AND THE RESUMPTION OF THE DIALOGUE TO WHICH THEY AGREED IN 1972.

ON JULY 22 I PUBLICLY RENEWED MY PROPOSAL FOR A CONFERENCE OF INTERESTED PARTIES ON KOREA SUGGESTING THAT IT TAKE PLACE THIS FALL AND THAT ARRANGEMENTS BE STARTED IMMEDIATELY. I HOPE YOU WILL GIVE CAREFUL AND SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION TO THIS PROPOSAL AS IT MAY RELATE TO FUTURE INTERNATIONAL CONSIDERATION OF THIS ISSUE. AMBASSADOR ELIOT WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH THE TEXT OF MY PROPOSAL.

SINCE THERE IS WITHIN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE UN A WIDE RANGE OF VIEWS ON PUERTO RICO AND KOREA, I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ASSISTANCE IN PREVENTING CONTENTIOUS POSITIONS FROM EMERGING ON EITHER ISSUE AT COMING MEETINGS, IN THE FIRST CASE BY AVOIDANCE OF THE ISSUE
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ALTOGETHER, AND IN THE SECOND BY THE ADVOCACY OF A CONSTRUCTIVE MINIMAL POSITION WHICH CAN BE THE BASIS FOR CONCILIATION. RESPECTFULLY, HENRY A. KISSINGER. END
QUOTE.

3. DEPARTMENT WISHES TO TREAT FOREGOING AS PRIVILEGED, PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN SECRETARY AND RECIPIENT. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO DISCOURAGE GOA FROM RELEASE IF ISSUE IS RAISED.

4. YOU SHOULD HAVE PRESIDENT'S PUERTO RICO SPEECH (STATE 159509) AVAILABLE IN EVENT THERE IS INTEREST IN SOURCE OF PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT TO WHICH MESSAGE REFERS.

KISSINGER

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NNN

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